

Rotary



District 6110 Newsletter

District Governor Jay Craig's Thoughts on our Foundation



Greetings all,

November is Foundation Month for Rotary

As we enter this next to last calendar month of the year 2020, we have many memories, and much to be happy for. Thanksgiving will bring families together, whether in person or virtually and memories will be shared by all. There is, after all, much to be celebrated, despite the way our lives have been changed, and adversely affected, by the pandemic. However, as we enter this season of family and

remembrance, let us not forget what has transpired this year. Let us not forget the great work that has been done by our beloved Rotary Foundation.

Started in 1917, by our sixth President of Rotary International, Arch Klumph, the Rotary Foundation is the great entity that separates Rotary from other civic organizations. When Klumph suggested the creation of an endowment to "Do good in the world," and the Kansas City club made the very first donation to the Foundation of \$26.50, he had no idea that one day, today, that amount would grow to be approaching TWO BILLION DOLLAR\$!

The good that has been done in the world by the Rotary Foundation since that gift in 1917, is just too hard to even imagine. The water projects, buildings, emergency help to communities and nations, is beyond comprehension. Yet, the Foundation continues to grow, thanks to Rotarians like you.

YOU, the Rotarians of District 6110, continue to give every week, every month, every year. **YOU** are the catalyst that makes the Foundation work. **YOU** are the engine that drives this phenomenal organization onward to even greater accomplishments. And I, as your District Governor, speaking for the Assistant Governors, the Club Presidents, your District Administrator, and all who will have their lives improved by your generosity, most humbly, and sincerely, say thank you!

Dictionaries and COVID-19

Thursday, November 19, 2020

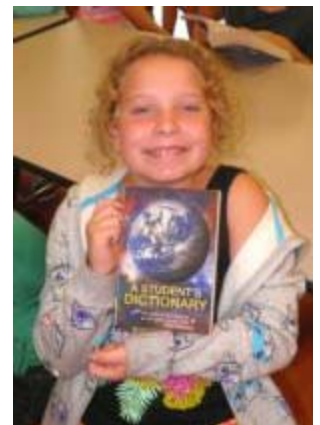
Dictionary Project - Literacy in action!

By Gary Pollmiller

Since 2004, thanks to the generosity of the clubs of District 6110 and other clubs all across the nation, over 893,472 children have received a personalized dictionary of their very own through District 6110's project.

Every year since our District 6110 adopted the Dictionary Project as a District-wide literacy project, a majority of our clubs have given a dictionary to students in the third grade in each club's service areas.

Project chair Gary Pollmiller has heard of a couple terrific ways that



clubs have used to interact with the students this "very special" year. While they could not hand the dictionaries to the students in person, they did drop them off at the schools with a twist or two.

- One club wrote letters to the students to introduce them to the various sections of their dictionary. They also extended an invitation, after the pandemic is over, to come visit their club.
- Other clubs have produced videos to present the dictionaries to the students. Their video has been uploaded to YouTube and a link to that video has been emailed to the teachers. That way Rotary still has a virtual presence in the classrooms when the children receive their own dictionary.

Since August, 27 clubs in District 6110 have distributed personalized dictionaries to the schools. A couple of clubs have expanded their projects to include all of the schools in their county, and have also included those students who are homeschooled. **It is never too late to participate in a dictionary distribution.** Most clubs do their distributions in the fall months, however several clubs have chosen to hold their distributions in the springtime.

Pollmiller notes, "While the pandemic guidelines have prevented our Rotarians from directly interacting with the students about their dictionaries, we believe that by placing the dictionaries in their hands through their teachers, whether at home or in the classroom, they will enable student growth, improve their literacy and continue to be a key lifelong resource for the students' ongoing development. It is amazing that we Rotarians have recognized the need to continue to cater to the literacy of our children, even during this pandemic."

If club presidents or club literacy/dictionary chairs have questions regarding how to start or to continue their club's literacy project, please don't hesitate to visit our website <http://www.rotaryliteracy.com/> or contact Gary at: [Gary's E-mail](#)

One Rotarian's Foundation Story



Alden Buerge became a Joplin Daybreak Rotary member during Daybreak's first year in 1991 and has been a faithful member ever since. Alden, former owner of First State Bank, also supports the Rotary International (RI) Foundation because "Rotary does good in the world." He is a multiple Paul Harris donor and a Benefactor.

Alden's passion for Rotary giving began after his retirement when he took a trip to Nicaragua to hunt turtle doves. While hunting, he shared his drinking water with several young native men who had been retrieving the downed doves in return for tips. The young men carried no drinking water, and were MUCH appreciative of his sharing.

His encounter with the men in Nicaragua and the lack of their easy access to water started Alden thinking more about clean water, and the lack thereof in many countries. This and his subsequent trips drove him to think about Rotary and one of its focus areas - clean water. Alden intends for his gifts to provide clean water to those who need it.

When asked about giving internationally versus locally, Alden noted that our country has many social programs in place, whereas that is not the case in many parts of the world.

He said "Rotary International is a fantastic organization. It has made the world a better place to live, and is extraordinarily worthwhile. We probably don't talk about it enough."

What's your Rotary Foundation story?

Paul Harris Society Update

By Johnice Dominick, District 6110 Paul Harris Society Coordinator, Assistant Governor

Greetings from Arkansas! It is my pleasure to serve District 6110 as the Paul Harris Society Coordinator. I have been a Rotarian in Berryville, Arkansas since 2014 and I serve nine additional clubs as an Assistant Governor.

During my initial training to become an Assistant Governor, I chose to become a Paul Harris Society Member. I had been giving to The Rotary Foundation loyally since becoming a Rotarian and decided \$1,000 a year to a worthy cause I hold deep in my heart was something I could accomplish.



Maybe you feel this way too? Have you been giving to The Rotary Foundation every year?

The easiest way to give to The Rotary Foundation is to sign up for Rotary Direct - log into My.Rotary.org and then go here: my.rotary.org/en/rotary-direct

While you are signing up for Rotary Direct, I challenge you to set your donation amount to \$85 a month to the Annual Fund or PolioPlus. What are you spending every week at the grocery store? How about getting your nails done or car detailed? \$85 a month does not seem like such a stretch to help Rotary projects all over the world when put into perspective.

Once you set your donation preferences, pledge to be a member of the Paul Harris Society - click here for the form: [Paul Harris Society form](#). Fill it out, mail it in, and your club will be sent a pennant you may attach to your Paul Harris Fellow pin to recognize your generous giving. Paul Harris Society pennants are not automatically sent to your club like your Paul Harris Fellow pin was.

Are you already giving \$1,000 a year? Fill out the form because we need to recognize you!

As of October 1, there are 25,921 Paul Harris Society members worldwide. 13,615 of those Rotarians are from the United States. Join us and help those in need around the world!

Our Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Foundation

November is Foundation month. The Rotary Foundation is what separates Rotary from all other civic and service organizations. The mission of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. The Rotary Foundation has been given a four-star rating, the highest of any charitable organization, by Charity Navigator. When you give to the Rotary Foundation you know that your gift will be handled with integrity and will impact a life in your local community or somewhere in the world.

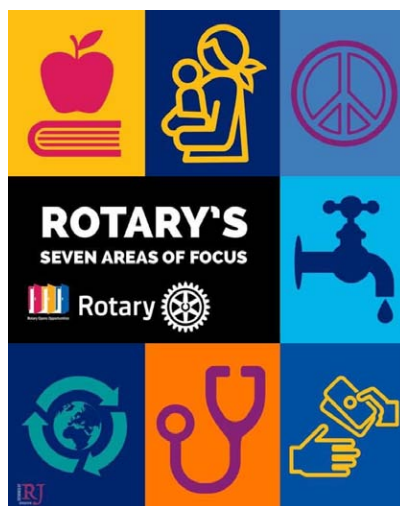
The Rotary Foundation has almost wiped polio from the face of the earth. In 1985 when Rotarians made a promise to the children of the world to eliminate polio, there were over 350,000 active cases in almost 200 countries with 1,000 new cases a day. Now cases of the wild polio virus are limited to parts of Pakistan and Afghanistan. We will not rest until the world is declared polio free.

Your contributions to polio will make it a reality.

When you give to the Annual Fund you make possible District Grants, which support humanitarian projects, scholarships, youth programs and other projects in our local communities. Annual Fund contributions also support Global Grants, which support international projects that address maternal and child health, water and sanitation, disease prevention and treatment, peace and conflict resolution, education and literacy, economic and community development and supporting the environment.

Your generous gifts to the Rotary Foundation change lives in our local communities and throughout the world. Highlight the work of our Foundation during this month. Schedule a program on the Rotary Foundation during this Rotary year. Celebrate the fact that the Rotary Foundation is doing good in the world, and that your club through your contributions makes it possible.

Ed Hardesty, PDG
District 6110 Foundation Chair



Medical Supplies Network, Inc. is a critical resource during COVID-19



As COVID-19 spread in March and April, MSNI gave away over \$360,000 worth of masks and PPE to:

Stillwater Hospital	Grove Hospital	St John Hospital	Oologah EMS
St. Francis Hospital	Hillcrest Claremore	Hillcrest Tulsa	Claremore Fire Department
Yellville Arkansas retirement home	Claremore Fire Department	Several Tulsa Fire Department Stations	Ronald McDonald's House Tulsa
Hot Springs Fire Dept	Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas	Several independent testing sites	Salvation Army

The retail value of these items if they were purchased: 130,000 masks at \$2.00 each = \$260,000; 10,000 lbs of PPE equipment at \$10.00 per lb = \$100,000,

MSNI gives away all kinds of items almost daily to local hospitals, clinics and individuals.

We continue making regular shipments of medical goods and equipment across the globe. In the last few months we have shipped containers to:

- Burkina Faso, sponsored by Fidalgo Island Rotary Club in Anacortes, Washington.
- 11,500 pounds of items to Ukraine in July;
- Tulsa Sunrise Rotarian, Dr Folly, shipped his 7th container to Togo, Africa in August; and is working on another container to hopefully ship in December.
- We helped with a container going to Madagascar in August;
- We arranged to send another 1,500 pounds of items to Venezuela in September;
- We sent a full container o Madagascar in October .
- Tulsa Sunrise is in the process of raising funds for a shipment to Cameroon, Africa

Supplies and equipment continue coming in, and we always need help sorting them. We just received a mammogram machine from lola, Kansas.

Our office is manned Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-2 providing a consistent timeframe for donations and picking items up.

In other activities, in September, MSNI arranged to have a food giveaway at the warehouse with the help of Tulsa Sunrise and Sand Springs Rotary clubs. We gave away more than 2200 boxes of food.

Our Wish List:

1. We are constantly looking for shipment sponsors : An individual, club, church, group or organization that wishes to send a container to another country paying only for the cost of shipping the container. All contents are free! The average shipping cost is \$9,000, although some are less. Several clubs can go together also.
2. The warehouse has been redone and is open for volunteers.
 - Only 10 people are allowed in the new volunteers area at a time
 - **We can always use volunteers during the week. (Yes, MSNI is not just a weekend project!)**
 - If you need a speaker for your club, we can provide ZOOM or in-person speakers at your meeting.
 - We are always looking for new Ambassadors. This can be a person, club, or organization. What better way to honor an individual than make them and Ambassador!



Pryor, OK: Great Days of Service

Pryor, Ok recently celebrated its Great Days of Service with a community-wide food drive, with Rotarians involved at every level of the event.

Earlier in the week, student volunteers delivered empty shopping bags with attached instructions to homes throughout Pryor. The plan was to fill the bags with non-perishable food or personal hygiene items and leave the bag out on their front porch Saturday morning. Groups of volunteers then collected the bags.

Student volunteers, working at a local church, sorted all the items, then boxed them up in various categories such as soup, canned vegetables, beans, etc. The boxes were labeled and then loaded on a large trailer. Meanwhile, groups of students, Rotarians and other volunteers were at the local food pantry, Pryor Ministries Center. While waiting for the loads to arrive, volunteer Interact and other students helped load seasonal items in the clothing and dry goods area into storage bins and assisted with cleaning.

When the food drive loads arrived, everyone pitched in unloading and weighing the boxes, and placing on their respective pallets. As time allowed, volunteers checked the expiration dates of the food items.

Volunteer times were divided into two shifts with some volunteers opting to stay the whole time. The volunteer force included six Rotarians, fourteen middle and high school students, one college student and two other adult volunteers. Some of the high school students are also members of the Pryor High School Interact Club. All total, 8,441 pounds of food and 496 pounds of hygiene products were donated! A very successful Great Days of Service for Pryor thanks to the Rotary and other volunteers!



Tell Your Story



Our District 6110 is filled with many very active Rotary Clubs. We are always looking for info on what clubs are doing to put in the newsletter, on DACdb and social media. While we as Rotarians are not always interested in being "In the spotlight" it DOES help other clubs see great ideas for service. Let us know what your club is doing by sending info to the district office at

districtadministrator@district6110.org or to the District Public Image Chair, Wally Bloss at WBloss@Gmail.com

Thanks!

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